

26th August 1926]

*Vacancies in the Government Press.*

\* 2337 Q.—Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU : With reference to question No. 504 answered at the meeting of the Legislative Council of the 28th October 1925, regarding vacancies in the Government Press, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the three posts of readers on Rs. 60—4—100 said to be vacant have since been filled up; if so, when and how; and

(b) whether in filling up vacancies, the Superintendent, Government Press, takes into consideration the services and qualifications of the employees to be promoted?

A.—(a) Two of the posts have been filled from 1st September 1925 and the third from 1st April 1926, by promotion from among the readers in the lower grade of Rs. 30—2—60.

(b) Yes.

**Madras Planters' Labour Act.**

*Cost of police under the operations of the Madras Planters' Labour Act.*

\* 2338 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state what was the approximate cost in connexion with the police required under the operations of the Madras Planters' Labour Act during the years 1924—25 and 1925—26 for the following purposes:—

(1) the arrest and detention of the accused until and during trial;

(2) the despatch to prison of the labourer accused sentenced to imprisonment; and

(3) the despatch of the labourer prisoners on release?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 2214.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"So far as I recollect, the Government have not collected information separately. May I enquire whether a person who is arrested in a place in South Kanara is taken all the way to some Magistrate in Wynad or some other distant place?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"This is a hypothetical question."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I am asking whether this is not the practice."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That question does not arise."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Enormous expenditure is incurred on account of this very extraordinary procedure of arresting a person in one part of the world and sending him to another part of the world. May I know whether this expenditure cannot be avoided?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That is a suggestion for action."

**Unemployment.**

*Progress made by the committee on unemployment.*

\* 2339 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state what progress has been made by the committee appointed to investigate the problem of unemployment?

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A.—The committee has issued a questionnaire to the public and has asked that answers may be sent not later than the 15th August 1926.

### Assignment of Lands.

*Darkhast lands set apart for assignment to Adi-Dravidas.*

\* 2340 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received the resolutions of the Madras Presidency Adi-Dravida Conference held at Madras on May 1926, as well as the resolution of the Tiruvannamalai Conference and the Vikravandi Conference;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to withdraw the power from the village officials of making recommendations on darkhast petitions;

(c) whether it is a fact that in the lists of lands as per Board of Revenue Proceedings No. 1187, dated 5th March 1925, only lands which are unfit for cultivation and rocky soil are included in the lists set apart for Adi-Dravidas;

(d) whether any orders have been issued to include some darkhast lands useful for cultivation; and

(e) if not, why not?

A.—(a) Copies of the Resolutions passed in the first two Conferences have been received by Government.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 2278.

(c), (d) & (e) The rules provide for the reservation of cultivable land including valuable land. The Government have no reason to believe that only lands unfit for cultivation are being reserved.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"With reference to the answers to clauses (c) to (e) I have brought to the notice of the Revenue Secretariat several specific instances where lands unfit for cultivation and rocky soil are included in the lists set apart for Adi-Dravidas. I want to know what action was taken on those representations."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I am very glad to hear that the hon. Member has brought such cases to the notice of the Government. If he will give notice of his question we will tell him what action has been taken on the representations."

### Deputy Collectors.

*Additions to the cadre of Deputy Collectors.*

11-30  
a.m.

\* 2341 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: With reference to the answer of the Government to questions Nos. 215 and 216 of 7th February 1925, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the question of adding to the permanent cadre of Deputy Collectors to meet the increased demand has been examined and, if so, with what results;